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Applicant(s): Ramaswamy et al. )  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned ) I hereby certify that this paper is  
Filed: June 27, 2006 ) being filed electronically with the  
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FROM A LOCAL DEVICE ) June 27, 2006  
FROM A BROADCAST SIGNAL )  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-referenced patent application, please  
enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks:

**The Status of the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.